

When Persecution is an Answer to Prayer

Pastor Kerry B. Robinson

Matthew 5:10

Persecution Principle #1: Living for God causes us to live in friction with the world around us.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. –Matthew 5:10 (ESV)

Persecution Principle #2: Persecution for righteousness' sake causes us to live as victors in Christ instead of victims of others.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. –Matthew 5:11-12 (ESV)

Persecution Principle #3: Persecution for righteousness' sake is to be experienced rather than expected.

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. –James 1:2-3 (ESV)

Persecution Principle #4: Persecution for righteousness' sake is to be embraced rather than enjoyed.

And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. –James 1:4 (ESV)